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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. Serial No.: 09/431,451

Group Art Unit: 1650

Filing Date: November 1, 1999

Examiner: Sisson, B.

Applicant: Senapathy, P.

Attorney Docket No.: 34623.005

Title: METHOD FOR AMPLIFYING SEQUENCES FROM UNKNOWN DNA

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

RECEIVED

JUN 20 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

BOX: NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

To the Commissioner:

Responsive to the Office Action dated March 13, 2001, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration in view of the following remarks and the Rule 132 Declaration of Periannan Senapathy, submitted herewith.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 26, line 10, after "08/406,545" please insert:

B1 --, now U.S. Patent No. 5,994,098, issued November 30, 1999, --.

At page 26, after line 11, please insert the following paragraphs:

B2
1/11/01

-- Any non-specificity can be avoided by fine-tuning the reaction conditions such as by adjusting the annealing temperature and the reaction temperature during amplification, and/or adjusting the length and G/C content of the primers. These adjustments are routinely done in the standard PCR amplification protocol. In short, although the partly-fixed primers have a random sequence component, a sub-population of the primer molecules will have the exact sequence that would bind with the exact target sequence. The proportion of the molecules with exact sequence that would bind with the exact target sequence will vary depending on the number of random characters in the partly-fixed primers. For example, a primer 11